

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

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APRIL, 1912

No. 6

SABBATH EVENING APRIL 7--

No. 1.

EASTER PRAISES.

Sing aloud unto God our strength;
Make a joyful noise unto the God of
Jacob.

Take a psalm and bring hither the
timbrel the pleasant harp and the
psaltery,
For since by man came death, by man
came also the resurrection of the dead,
For Christ is risen from the dead.

And become the first fruits of them
that slept.

Christ the Lord is risen to-day—
Sons of men and angels say.

No. 2.

Therefore my heart is glad,
And my glory rejoiceth,
And my flesh shall rest in hope.

No. 3.

Thou wilt shew me the path of life,
Thou wilt show me fullness of joy.
In thy presence is fullness of joy.
At thy right hand there are pleasures
forevermore.

No. 4.

I would not have you ignorant concerning
them which are asleep.

That we sorrow not, even as those
who have no hope.
For if we believe that Jesus died and
rose again.

Even so them which sleep in Jesus
will God bring with him,

For the Lord himself shall descend
from heaven with a shout

With the voice of an arch angel
and the trumpet of God.

No. 5.

Oh, sing to the Lord, ye saints of his,
Give thanks for his holiness.

Oh, sing to the Lord, give thanks and
praise to his holy name.

For weeping may endure for a night,
But joy cometh in the morning.

No. 6.

The stone which the builders refused
Is become the head of the corner.
This is the Lord's doing;
It is marvelous one in our eyes.
This is the day which the Lord hath
made;

We will rejoice and be glad.

No. 7.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
And be ye lifted up, ye everlasting
doors—

And the king of glory shall come in.
Who is this king of glory? The Lord
mighty in battle.

The Lord of hosts, he is the king of
glory.

No. 8.

I will extol thee, O Lord,
For thou hast lifted me up.
O Lord, my God, I cried unto thee,
and thou hase healed me.

O Lord, thou hast brought up my
soul from the grave,

Thou hast kept me alive.

No. 9.

The day of resurrection; earth tell
it abroad,

The passover of gladness, the passover
of God.

From death to life eternal, from this
world to the sky.

Our Christ has brought us over, with
hymn of victory

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we
may see aright.

The Lord in rays eternal of resurrec-
tion light.

And list'ning to his accents, may
hear so calm and plain,

His own "All hail!" and, hearing,
may rise the Victor's strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let
earth her song begin.

Let the round world keep triumph
and all that is therein,

Invisible and visable, their notes let
all things blend;

For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy
that hath no end.

No. 10.

Behold, behold, I show you a mys-
tery—

We shall not all sleep, but we shall
all be changed.

In the twinkling of an eye at the
last trump,

And the dead shall be raised incor-
ruption.

No. 11.

Christ the Lord is risen again Alle-
lujah!

Christ hath broken every chain, Al-
lelujah;

Hark, angelic voices cry, Allelujah.

Sing evermore on high, Allelujah.

He bore all pain and loss, comfort-
less upon the cross,

Lives in glory now on high, pleads
for us and hears our cry.

He who slumbered in the grave, is
exalted now to save Allelujah!

Now through christendom it rings,
that the

Lamb is the king of kings, Allelu-
jah!

No. 12.

Oh, blessed be the Lord, the Lord God
of Israel,

Who only doeth wondrous things,
And blessed be his glorious name for-
ever and ever,

And let the earth be filled with his
glory.

Oh blessed be the Lord forevermore.

Blessed be his holy name forever-
more.

—o—
EASTER MEDITATION, APRIL 7,
1912.

Woman why weepest thou? John 6,
20:15.

It is early in the morning on the
first day of the week. For three days
the torn and lifeless body of the Lord
had been sleeping in the new tomb in
the garden. After the tragedy on Cal-
vary was over, the friends of Jesus
found themselves in doubt and utter
despair. They felt that the cause which
they had championed was a lost cause.
They had trusted that he who had
been condemned and put to death upon
the cross was he which should redeem
Israel. Now all hope had been swept
away, and the little group of followers
was sad and disappointed.

The body had been taken from the
place of torture and borne to the gar-
den and laid away to rest, in the new
tomb. A great stone was rolled against
the door to make the grave secure,
Seemingly, as far as the friends of
Jesus knew, this was the end of the
career of the great prophet of Nazareth
and of the Messiah. Sad and dejected
in heart and spirit, "the mourners
went about the streets," trying in some
way to account for the sudden ending
of a career, which to them had been so
full of promise.

When the Sabbath was ended, early
in the morning of the first day of the
week, came some of the women with
spices to the garden to anoint the
body of the Lord. It was a beautiful
spring morning, but the hearts of the
women were sad and heavy and their
faces wore the expression of sorrow and
disappointment. When they reached
the garden, they found themselves con-
fronted with new perplexities. The
stone had been rolled away and the

grave was empty. From the cross the spirit had taken its flight to yonder world, and now all that had been left to them of their friend, was gone, they knew not where. What anxious and perplexing thoughts must have entered the minds and hearts of these women. What a revelation when they found the empty tomb, and seated upon the stone, one who said to them, "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, he is risen." They must have wondered whether or not, this might mean another act in the cruel tragedy of Calvary. In their surprise and bewilderment some of the women returned to the city to carry the tidings of the empty sepulcher to the disciples; but one of their number tarried in the garden. She did not credit the story of the risen Lord. She mistrusted and accounted for the missing body in some other way. She knew the bitterness and the hatred of the enemies of her Lord. Though heartbroken and distressed Mary Magdalene was courageous and fearless. She decided upon making a search for the missing body and of ascertaining the truth. As she turned back from the tomb, her eyes fell upon one, but she knew not who it was. He spoke to her, but she failed to recognize the voice. It was not until he addressed her in a very familiar way that she knew it was the risen Lord.

"Woman why wepest thou?" The night of sorrow and of weeping is past. The light of the Easter sun has broken through the dark cloud that had settled upon Calvary and upon all Jerusalem. It was the morning of the first day of the week and it was the dawn of a new day for the world. The mighty Saviour, the son of God, had triumphed over the enemy, over darkness, over sin, over death and over the grave. Hear His word of triumph. "Fear not, I am the first and the last. I am He that liveth and was dead, and behold I am

alive forever, Amen; and have the keys or hell and of death." "If Christ be not raised," says the apostle, "your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But how is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept, for since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead?" Mighty conquerer is the son of God. Death could not hold him in his chains. The grave could not retain him. He broke the chains of death and the bars of hell and of the grave asunder. Death is swallowed up in victory. "O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?"

"Woman why wepest thou?" The Lord is risen. He is the Mighty Conquerer, the Prince of peace, the Light of the world, the Author of life and immortality. Earth's weary and foot-weary traveler, dry up your tears; take courage; despair not; "All is well," the Lord liveth.

The empty tomb in the garden is proof of the risen Lord. "To the apostles, whom he had chosen, he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." But the living, loving, saving Christ of to-day is greater proof of his triumph over death and the grave. "The power of his resurrection" is the dynamic, acting, uplifting power in the world to-day. The risen, living Christ wields his scepter of power among the nations of the world, and he rides in triumph over land and sea. The glorious Easter dawn is the sure harbinger of the world's millennium of the Prince of Peace, and the harbinger of the coming of his kingdom, of whom it is written, "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name

Grace Church Visitor**REV. A. ZARTMAN, Editor and Publisher****Subscription Price, 25 cents per year**

written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords." "Even so Lord Jesus, come quickly, Amen."

"Woman why weepest thou?" The empty grave is the proof of our resurrection and of the life eternal. "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept." "I am the resurrection and the life," saith the Lord. "He that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an arch angel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort ye another in these words. The risen Christ is now our ascended Lord, who has gone into the heavens to prepare a place for his own. "And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also.

Woman why weepest thou? In the "Home Eternal" a happy welcome awaits every longing and home-sick child of God. "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

—o—
The Easter evangelistic services were a great blessing to our people. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the sermons of Dr. R. C. Zartman. It was a great privilege to have him with us in these meetings. The only regret we have was that he could not remain for a week or so longer. The pastor had urged every member of the church to be at every meeting from beginning to end, lest

there might be some regrets. The prophecy came true. Some began attending the meetings at the eleventh hour, now they are sorry.

The women of the Missionary Society of Grace church will be the guests of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Reformed church at Bluffton Thursday afternoon, April 11. An interesting program has been arranged for the afternoon. Quite a number of our women are going. We are sure they will be royally entertained. The delegation will go on the car leaving the interurban station at 1:05.

John Koepf has been very ill with pneumonia at the home of his sister, Mrs. Waldo, on Harrison street. He came to the city from Toledo about three weeks ago

SALE SOCIAL.

On April 26 the Sunday school will have a sale social in the lecture rooms of the church. We have selected Friday evening as the school children can come better that night than on any other.

We want to make this social a success and need the help of everyone in the Sunday school and church. We will have booths for the sale of aprons, candy, popcorn, etc. We will serve coffee and doughnuts and ice cream and cake; will also have a fish-pond and a Jack Horner Pie. One or more classes having charge of each department. There will also be a mixed entertainment, so we hope to have something for everyone. We have made the admission 5 cents; children under 10 years free. Everyone selling ten tickets will receive one free and the boy and girl selling the most tickets, will each receive a present. The object of this sale social is to raise funds for the parsonage painting fund. We need your help and patronage and are counting on you. Do not disappoint us.

W. F. CLOSE, Supt.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Monthly meeting of the Laymen's League in the lecture rooms of the church Tuesday evening, April 9. Every man in the church should attend this meeting.

Monthly social and business meeting of the Young People's Society at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Close, 1027 Elmwood avenue, Thursday evening, April 11.

Monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society, April 18, at the home of Mrs. John Snyder, 1622 Cass street.

Monthly meeting of the consistory Wednesday evening, April 10.

Church supper Thursday evening, June 6, by the women of Section No. 2. Managers, Mrs. F. Hildebrand, Mrs. C. F. Close, Mrs. D. E. Null, Miss Anna Doerner.

MARRIAGES AT THE PARSONAGE.

Jan. 13. Mr. George Bittenger and Miss Nellie Engard.

Feb. 17. Mr. Clarence O. Thomas and Miss Ethel McCoy.

March 7. William H. Michael and Miss Annabel Kanavel.

These young people are all from the city. We extend to them hearty congratulations.

The financial secretary requests every member of the church to furnish him with their name and address, just write the name and address on a card or slip of paper and place it upon the plate when the offering is received; do not overlook this, do it at once.

Dear Friends:—This has been a hard winter on you all and our church has had the same experience; it has been a very hard winter on church finances, the weather almost every Sunday has been unfavorable and our collections have suffered accordingly. We are hoping for better weather, a larger attendance and increased receipts. Let me urge upon all, the

necessity of keeping up your payments; do your very best, as we assure you we will need it.

Yours sincerely,
W. F. CLOSE, Fin. Sec.

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GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

Y. P. S. C. E. TOPICS AND LEADERS—APRIL.

7—Union meeting at First Baptist church at 6 p. m.

14. How can we enrich our Sabbath? Mark 2:23-28. T. 1-6. Dr. Zartman.

21—The Christian virtues Perseverance. Gal. 6:1-9. Bertha Wickart.

28—The home missions of my denomination. Ps. 33:8-22. W. F. Close.

MAY.

5—The Christian virtues. V Unselfishness. I John 3:10-18. Hazel Gooley.

12—The value of limitation, 2 Kings, 13:14-19. Anna Doermer.

Woman's Missionary Society, April 18. Hostess, Mrs. John Snyder. Scripture lesson, Acts 20:16-38, Mrs. J. W. Brewer. Prayer for an efficient and active church membership. Topic, The Social service of the Church. Mrs. A. K. Zartman, (discussion), Mrs. W. Siebold, Mrs. E. C. Close.

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